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PATENT  
671302-2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Shirai et al.  
Serial No. : 10/784,633  
For : RAT HIGHLY SENSITIVE TO CARCINOGEN  
Filed : February 23, 2004  
Examiner : TBA  
Art Unit : 1632

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Adam Ahmed

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

A. Ahmed

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 form, and which are enclosed herewith.

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, it is believed that no fee is required. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fee, or to credit any overpayment in fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

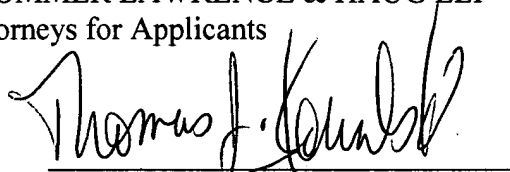
Consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully request that a copy of Form PTO-1449 be initialed by the Examiner and returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP  
Attorneys for Applicants

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. Kowalski", written over a horizontal line.

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|--|----|-----------------|---|---|-------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----|
| Based on Form PTO-1449<br>(3/90)<br><br>LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT<br>(Use several sheets if necessary)   |    |                 |   | ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br><br><b>671302-2004</b>  |       | SERIAL NO.<br><br><b>10/784,633</b> |                               |    |
|  |    |                 |   | APPLICANT<br><br><b>Shirai ET AL.</b>       |       |                                     |                               |    |
|  |    |                 |   | FILING DATE<br><br><b>February 23, 2004</b> |       | GROUP<br><br><b>1632</b>            |                               |    |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS  |    |                 |   |   |       |                                     |                               |    |
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL  |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE  | NAME  | CLASS | SUBCLASS                            | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |    |
|  |    |                 |   |   |       |                                     |                               |    |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS   |    |                 |   |   |       |                                     |                               |    |
|  |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE  | COUNTRY                                     | CLASS | SUBCLASS                            | TRANSLATION                   |    |
|  |    |                 |   |   |       |                                     | YES                           | NO |
|  |    |                 |   |   |       |                                     |                               |    |
|  |    |                 |   |   |       |                                     |                               |    |
|  |    |                 |   |   |       |                                     |                               |    |
|  |    |                 |   |   |       |                                     |                               |    |
| OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)   |    |                 |   |   |       |                                     |                               |    |
|  | AA |                 | Temme, et al. High Incidence of spontaneous and chemically induced liver tumors in mice deficient for connexin 32 (1997) Current Biology 7: 713-716 |   |       |                                     |                               |    |
|  | AB |                 | Inoguchi et al. Altered gap junction activity in cardiovascular tissues of diabetes (2001) Med Electronic Microsc 34: 86-91                         |   |       |                                     |                               |    |
|  | AC |                 | Yamasaki, et al. Role of connexin (gap junction) genes in cell growth control and carcinogenesis (1999) Life Sciences 322: 151-159                  |   |       |                                     |                               |    |
|  | AD |                 | Asamoto et al. Connexin 32 Dominant-Negative Mutant Transgenic Rats are Resistant to Hepatic Damage by Chemicals (2004) Hepatology 40: 205-210      |   |       |                                     |                               |    |
| EXAMINER   |    |                 |   | DATE CONSIDERED                             |       |                                     |                               |    |
| * EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |    |                 |   |   |       |                                     |                               |    |